

## **The way to go for a green card**

The fast way to [get a green card](#) or to become a lawful, permanent resident is to marry a U.S. citizen. Every year hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizens marry foreign nationals and petition for them to reside permanently in the U.S. Spouses of U.S. citizens are exempt from quota limitations so it is unlikely that you will have to wait as long as other green card applicants to gain permanent resident status.

If you are one of the numerous people wondering, “[How do I get a green card?](#)” you have several options. When obtaining a green card through marriage to a U.S. citizen, your request should be accompanied by proof such as your marriage certificate and proof of termination of any previous marriages. The procedure for marrying a U.S. citizen differs based on whether the foreign spouse is currently inside or outside of the U.S. If the spouse is already in the U.S., he or she may be able to adjust status while being allowed to remain there until the application is approved.

Alternatively, if a person marries a U.S. citizen outside of the U.S., it is unlikely that a visitor visa will be issued since the spouse is usually considered to be an intending immigrant, and is not entitled to a non-immigrant visa. Therefore, the petitioning spouse would have to wait outside the U.S. until the petition is approved and the immigrant visa could be issued.

When a person receives a green card based on a marriage that is less than two years old when the person becomes a permanent resident, the resident status is conditional for two years. At the end of the two years the resident status expires unless a petition to remove the condition is approved. The petition to remove the condition is signed by both the husband and the wife. It is possible for a divorced spouse to sign the petition alone and then have the condition removed if it is proved that the marriage was genuine and not a sham. If you and your spouse are separated or divorced during the two year conditional period, you should consult an experienced immigration lawyer for assistance.

<http://green-card-marriages.com>